

OPERATIONS GROUP FILE

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SEP 5 9 31 AM '79

C O N F I D E N T I A L 051203Z SEP 79 STAFF

CITE FBIS/LONDON 17356

TO: FBIS INFO FBIS/VIENNA.

REF: FBIS 09199

25X1

1. FOLLOWING FROM RAE:

A. "WE NEVER MEANT TO CREATE SO MUCH HEAD-SCRATCHING OVER WHAT WAS INTENDED AS A REQUEST FOR SOME TEMPORARY HELP OVER A DIFFICULT PATCH. BY THE END OF THIS WEEK WE HOPE TO HAVE OUR COMBINED PERSIAN/AFGHAN STRENGTH UP TO EIGHT FROM ITS ESTABLISHED FOUR. TO DO THIS WE HAVE HAD TO ROB OTHER TEAMS, INCLUDING ROMANIAN, ONE OF OUR TWO HAVING RETIRED PREMATURELY AND THE OTHER BEING NEEDED FOR FRENCH. THIS IS A TEMPORARY SITUATION UNTIL WE KNOW WHAT OUR FINANCIAL FUTURE IS TO BE AND UNTIL BAHREIN IS FULLY OPERATIONAL. LONG-TERM, UNLESS SUBJECTED TO SEVERE CUTS, WE PLAN TO RETAIN ROMANIAN AND BULGARIAN CAPABILITY BECAUSE IT SEEMS UNWISE TO LOSE IT IN THE PRESENT STATE OF EASTERN EUROPE AND THE POSSIBLE REPERCUSSIONS THROUGHOUT THE AREA OF TITO'S DEATH.

B. "IF THE PROPOSED TEMPORARY TRANSFER OF MOSCOW IN ROMANIAN TO VIENNA CREATES DIFFICULTIES FOR FBIS, WHETHER OF COMPREHENSION OR OF FEASIBILITY, WE WILL EXPLORE OTHER WAYS OF HANDLING IT HERE. WE WOULD NOT IN ANY CASE BE HAPPY TO SEE COVERAGE REDUCED TO ONE HOUR A DAY AS THERE ARE CERTAINLY TWO DIFFERENT PROGRAMMES IN THE FOUR HOUR-LONG TRANSMISSIONS TO BE MONITORED."

2. RVW 5 SEP 85.

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